

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8609

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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CINCUSAFE

EUCOM

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2582

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TU, CY, GR

SUBJECT: NEW GOVERNMENT'S COALITION PROTOCOL - CYPRUS

1. THE SECTION OF THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT'S COALITION PROTOCOL DEALING WITH CYPRUS STATES THAT THE PRIMARY AIM WILL BE TO FIND A FORM OF SOLUTION WHICH WILL "SAFEGUARD THE FUTURE OF THE TURKISH COMMUNITY AND PROTECT THE EXISTENCE OF CYPRUS AS AN INDEPENDENT FEDERATED STATE WITHIN A LEGAL FRAMEWORK BASED ON THE REALITIES OF THE ISLAND." OTHER SALIENT POINTS:

-- "...WE BELIEVE THAT A FEDERAL SOLUTION CHARACTERIZED BY ONLY TWO REGIONS ON THE ISLAND COULD ASSURE THIS FORM OF SOLUTION," (I.E., THAT REFERRED TO ABOVE).

-- THE GOVERNMENT WILL REMAIN VIGILANT TO PREVENT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH MIGHT DESTROY THE EXISTING BALANCE AND STABILITY
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IN THE AREA IN WHICH CYPRUS IS LOCATED.

--THE GOVERNMENT WILL "ENCOURAGE THE TWO COMMUNITIES TO REACH, THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS, A SOLUTION WHICH WILL BE A COMPROMISE OF THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF THE TWO NATIONAL COMMUNITIES CONSTITUTING THE STATE OF CYPRUS, ENABLE THEM TO LIVE IN PEACE AND CALM ON THE ISLAND AND SERVE THEIR ECONOMIC WELFARE."

--"AT THE SAME TIME, WE WILL DISPLAY THE REQUISITE GOOD WILL AND EFFORT TO OBTAIN SOLUTIONS IN KEEPING WITH OUR NATIONAL INTERESTS AND RIGHTS TO OTHER PROBLEMS WHICH POISON OUR RELATIONS WITH OUR NEIGHBOR GREECE."

--FINALLY, THE PROTOCOL PROMISES TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY ADMINISTRATIVE AND ECONOMIC SUPPORT TO ASSIST THE TURKISH COMMUNITY IN ITS DEVELOPMENT.

2. COMMENT: THIS LANGUAGE IS SURPRISINGLY RESTRAINED, GIVEN THE HARD LINE TENDENCIES OF THE TWO EXTREMIST PARTIES IN THE COALITION, THE NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY AND THE NATIONAL ACTION PARTY. THE MODERATION OF THE STATEMENT SUGGESTS THAT PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL HAS, AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING, SUCCEEDED IN PRESERVING FLEXIBILITY. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IS THE PLDGE TO ENCOURAGE A SOLUTION WHICH WOULD INVOLVE COMPROMISES BY BOTH COMMUNITIES.

3. THE COALITION PROTOCOL IS THE PUBLISHED INTER-PARTY AGREEMENT ON THE PRINCIPLES ON WHICH THE COALITION IS BASED. IT IS NOT THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAM WHICH MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WITHIN A WEEK. THE THRUST OF THE WORDING OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM IS GENERALLY SIMILAR TO THAT CONTAINED IN THE PROTOCOL, BUT THIS IS NOT ALWAYS THE CASE. IN ANY EVENT, THE PROTOCOL IS LIKELY TO LOSE SOME OF ITS APPARENT FLEXIBILITY AS IT IS TRANSLATED INTO GOVERNMENT POLICY, WITH DEMIREL FEELING THE PRESSURES OF HIS OPPOSITION AND OF HIS EXTREMIST COALITION PARTNERS.

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